

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 26th April 1962.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock. Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will first take up the questions relating to the Hon. the Minister for Finance as he has some other engagement to keep up.

Madathipathi

*21 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from any Madathipathi for exemption from celibate life on merical grounds; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, is there any code of conduct laid down by anybody for the guidance of these Madathipathis?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the code of conduct has to be prescribed by the persons themselves. I am not aware of any code of conduct prescribed by any other person.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Is it not a fact, Sir, that there are already provisions in the Act itself that they should not be immoral and all that? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The hon. Member is aware of the prvision in the Act.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will it not be in the interest of public and the Madthipathis themselves if the Government were to introduce a Bill to enable them to marry? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : If any Madathipthi were to apply for such permission, whether direct to the Government or through the hon. Member, Government will consider it. (Laughter.)

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, if the Madathipathis apply to the Government to permit them to marry, will the Government permit them to mary?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : So far as the Government are concerned, they do not stand in the way of the Madathipathis marrying. Government will welcome their marrying as the hon. Member would welcome.

SRI K. ANBAZHAGAN : தலைவர் அவர்களே, துறவிகளுடைய வாழ்க்கைக்குக்கூட அரசாங்கம் சட்டம் இயற்றுவதற்கு எண்ணிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறதா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இப்போதே சட்டம் இருக்கிறது. துறவிகள்கூட சீரான வாழ்க்கை நடத்தவேண்டும். தவறான பாதையில் சென்றால், அதைப்பற்றிக்கூட நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்டு வருகிறது.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, is it a fact that in our State one pseudo-Madathipathi goes about parading a medical certificate said to have been given him by one of the medical officers of the Government to the effect that his life will be in jeopardy if he were to lead a celibate life? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the Government have no information.

Pension

* 22 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received from teacher-*cum*-clerks for sanction of pension during 1960–61 ; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, was the verification made at the departmental level or at the Government level as to the receipt of the applications?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, teacher-*cum*-clerks refer to those who work for some time during the day as a teacher and for some hours of the day as a clerk. We do not have any system of teacher-*cum*-clerks.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is there any proposal to consider their cases?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : But the teacher-*cum*-clerks system does not exist here. So, there is no question of considering their cases. There have been no cases of teachers who had to work as clerks also on the same day.

* 23 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether a trained teacher retiring as a clerk or librarian with combined service as a teacher and clerk or librarian in schools is eligible for pension for his total service; and

(b) if not, whether the period of service as a teacher will secure for him any retirement benefit?